



Itawamba Community College's tradition of pride, service and excellence continues, but the best is yet to come.

There's much to be excited about...the College has earned recognition as one of the most affordable in the nation...an exciting five-year plan that will put a new face on the Tupelo Campus...a sizeable grant that will enhance efforts for a healthier ICC...and significant new initiatives that will reinforce the College's footprint in the region.

AffordableColleges.com, a newly-launched website, ranked ICC, which has an average in-state tuition of \$2,100 per semester and a 51 percent institutional financial aid rate, 43rd in the nation. Providing affordable and accessible education is a significant component of the College's mission, and national recognition of that endeavor is an indication that we are fulfilling that mission.

Within the next five years, heavy equipment and construction crews will reshape the Tupelo Campus. The demolition of a faculty house and structures that have housed technical programs and the physical plant will provide space for a general academic building that will include a commons area, food service, classrooms and administrative offices. Renovation of the technical education building will enable students to utilize state-of-the-art laboratories which will be located there. Our desire is to make the Tupelo Campus a better place for faculty, staff and students and to give the campus a much-needed facelift. In addition, a FEMA grant will make it possible to construct a 21,000-square-foot band hall with a safe room on the Fulton Campus, which will provide better accommodations for the ever-growing All-American Band as well as a facility that will enhance the College's endeavor to protect its ICC family.

An eighteen-month Blue Cross & Blue Shield Foundation grant will enable the College to provide expanded health and wellness opportunities not only for our faculty, staff and students, but also for those in K12 as well as in our community.

Initiatives such as dual-credit, mini-terms and the summer bridge program (LEAP) coupled with the innovative centers for Advising, Writing and Student Success will enhance ICC's efforts to ensure that students receive an unparalleled educational foundation.

Serving as the president of Itawamba Community College is both an honor and a privilege. On behalf of the College, thank you for the opportunity to provide a place that thousands of students call home each year. I join the other members of the ICC family in celebrating our success this year and looking forward to a future that will continue our legacy.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Itawamba Community
College is both an honor and a privilege. On behalf of the College, thank you for the opportunity to provide a place that thousands of students call home each year.

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Board of Supervisors: Chickasaw - Anderson McFarland, David Walters, Russell Brooks, Jerry Hall, Russell "Wolfie" King, Wanda Sweeney (Chancery Clerk); Itawamba - Charles Horn, Cecil "Ike" Johnson, Steve Moore, Eric "Tiny" Hughes, Ricky Johnson, James E. "Jim" Witt (Chancery Clerk); Lee- Phil Morgan, Bobby G. Smith, Darrell Rankin, Tommie Lee Ivy, Billy Joe Holland, Bill Benson (Chancery Clerk); Monroe - Doug Wiggins, Billy Kirkpatrick, Carol Crawford, Fulton Ware, Robert Tomey, Ronnie D. Boozer (Chancery Clerk); Pontotoc - Wayne Stokes, Wayne Tutor, Duane Tutor, Ernie Wright, Dennis Corder, Gary Moorman (Chancery Clerk); Sean Thompson (County Administrator) and Tammy Rodgers







Itawamba Community College is the largest WorkKeys assessor in the state, according to statistics from the Mississippi Community College Board.

As a result of WorkKeys testing, ICC awarded 2,743 Career Readiness Certificates from July 2013-June 2014, more than double the number by the community college which placed second.

WorkKeys is a job skills assessment system that helps

employers select, hire, train, develop and retain a high-performance workforce, according to ACT, which has developed the test. It measures foundational and soft skills and offers specialized assessments to target institutional needs. ACT's WorkKeys has helped millions of people build their skills to increase global competitiveness and develop successful career pathways. Applied mathematics, locating information and reading for infor-

WORKKEYS

mation form the basis of the ACT National Career Readiness Certificate™. Levels of certificates include platinum, gold, silver and bronze.

"Employers in our region have come to value the assessment as part of the employment process," said James Williams, vice president of Economic and Community Services, whose division is responsible for administration of the WorkKeys.

ACT WorkKeys test questions are based on situations in the everyday work world. The score, which is determined by the number of questions that are answered correctly, provides an opportunity for the test taker to compare level scores for those skills to the levels required for the job.



Itawamba Community College has received a significant WellFIT 365 grant for \$355,048 that will continue its mission to provide and promote a healthier college.

WellFIT 365 will cover new cardiac equipment including spin bikes, a nine-week health and nutrition program each semester and a youth summer health and wellness camp, according to Dana Hale, chair of ICC's Health, Physical Education and Recreation Division who is also leading the Health and Wellness Executive Committee. "My passion is health and wellness, and I am both

honored and excited to be a part of the WellFit 365 program. Our goal is to create healthier lifestyles with emphasis being placed on better nutrition practices and more active lives of our faculty, staff, student body and the surrounding communities."

"Itawamba Community College is extremely grateful to the Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi Foundation for this significant grant that will enable us to provide expanded health and wellness opportunities not only for our faculty, staff and students but also for those





Itawamba Community College's emphasis on student success, especially the advising process, has had a significant impact on graduation rates over the last few years.

"In the most recent 2015 reporting (2011 cohort), ICC's graduation rate has increased to 31 percent for those starting in a fall term and graduating within three years," said Liz Edwards, director of Institutional Research, Effectiveness and Accountability. That's a six percentage point increase (from 25 to 31 percent) in the last four year's reporting. There is also an eight percentage point improvement (from 13 to 21 percent) in those who graduate within two years in the same time frame.

One of the key components in the increase is the Advising Center, which opened in 2011 to foster and strengthen the advisor/advisee relationship.

ICC's faculty members have "bought in" to the concept, which enables them to stay as current as possible, said Mande Miller, director of Advising. "No other college has mandatory professional development sessions for advisers as well as a recognition and awards program." Faculty utilize ICC's portal, myTribe, for forms, announcements, manuals and updated curriculum and career information. This portal provides a rich resource of materials that assist in career and life planning and help guide students to educational success.

Through such innovations as an electronic planning form, it's possible to better track students to ensure that they achieve their goals, which culminate in the ICC diploma or certificate. "If students change majors," Miller noted, "there's a smoother transition of their files."

Students can utilize the advising website, a centralized location for information and resources; participate in student seminars on a variety of topics related to advising, developing an educational plan and preparing for the future; and access eAdvisor, which answers questions via email or live chat, Miller said.

Although the Advising Center has received several awards since its doors opened, Miller said that its collaboration with other areas of the College is the key to its success, and ultimately to the success of ICC's students.



- Faculty and staff who were selected to participate in the Leadership Development Institute for 2014-15 include Maggie Caldwell, Jennifer Cooper, Dr. Doug Ferguson, Jason Guntharp, Emily Lamb, Clay McNutt, Rachael Mitchell, Diann Nichols, Bob Swanson and Amanda Williams.
- Allen Coleman, director of Telecommunications and Information Services, and Elizabeth Edwards, director of Institutional Research, graduated as Education Policy Fellowship Program Fellows in the 2014 cohort.
- Christy Colburn, associate band director and woodwind

- instructor, was named a quarterfinalist for the Music Educators Award™ presented by The Recording Academy® and the GRAMMY Foundation®.
- Anna Britt-Begnaud, Writing Center director; Denise Gillespie, eLearning and Dual Credit coordinator; Clay McNutt, Electrical Technology instructor, and Britney Whitley, Health Science advisor, represented ICC at the 2014 Lamplighter Conference, September 23-25, at Coahoma Community College.
- Dr. Janae Ferguson Hagan, psychology instructor, was selected as ICC's recipient of the Mississippi Humanities



- Robin Lowe, English instructor, received the Evelyn Webb Service award from the Two-Year College English Association of Mississippi.
- Dr. Laura Pannell, gerontologist and lead online instructor for psychology, educational psychology and social work, was selected to represent Itawamba Community College at the 28th Annual Higher Education Appreciation Day - Working for Academic Excellence in February in Jackson. This year, she also

Caregivers."

- Carrie Ball-Williamson, director of athletics, was ICC's 2014 inductee into the Mississippi Community College Athletic Hall of Fame.
- Denise Gillespie, eLearning and Dual Credit coordinator, and Barry Emison, Precision Manufacturing and Machining instructor, were selected to represent ICC at the 2015 NISOD International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence in Austin, Texas.



STUDENT HONORS

- Marcus Walker of Hamilton placed first in the Job Interview with focus in Automotive and Collision Repair Technology category at the national SkillsUSA competition in Kansas City, Missouri.
 Ben Bryan of Fulton placed third in Computer Maintenance Technology.
- Itawamba Community College sophomores who were selected as members of the Phi Theta Kappa All-Mississippi Academic Team include Kellie Devan Ballard of Red Bay, Alabama; Mary Chandler Izard of Fulton; Karleigh Kimbrell of Pontotoc; and Mallory Grace Mahon of Blue Springs.
- Mr. and Miss ICC 2015, who were elected by the student body, are Sam Ivy of Ecru and Rebeca Torres of Houston.
- Selected by faculty and staff to the 2014-15 ICC Hall of Fame are Allie Devaughn of Mantachie; Mary Chandler Izard of Fulton; Trey Henry of Pontotoc; Sam Ivy of Ecru; Angela M. Ard of Smithville; Jake W. Wood and Jacob M. Hollis, both of Tupelo; Kellie D. Ballard of Sherman; Marley S. Donegan of Mooreville; Blake Ethridge of Shannon; Amanda E. Armas of Guntown; and Michael L. Adams of Belmont.
 Mallory Mahon of Blue Springs represented

Itawamba Community College at the 28th Annual

Higher Education Appreciation Day - Working for

Academic Excellence in February in Jackson.





- Christy Colburn, associate band director and woodwind instructor, was named a quarterfinalist for the Music Educator Award™ presented by The Recording Academy® and the GRAMMY Foundation®. She was among 222 music teachers from 208 cities across 41 states to be selected. In total, more than 7,000 initial nominations were submitted from all 50 states.
- Itawamba Community College's saxophone quartet performed in Jackson during Legislative Appreciation Day.
- The cast of ICC's **fall dinner theatre**, "Getting Sara Married," under the direction of Jessi Stevenson, performed before standing room only audiences.
- The art department presented two art workshops by

- painters Robin Whitfield and Sylvain Chamberlain and ceramicists Michael and Laura Ashley.
- Three ICC art students placed in the annual Community and Junior College State Art Competition, hosted by Meridian Community College. They include Olivia Whittington of Blue Springs, third in drawing for "I've Got Something in My Eye;" Katie Clayton of Nettleton, third in pen and ink with "Arcana Triptych;" and Penny Houser of Pontotoc, honorable mention in graphic design for her Adobe Illustrator computer art "When Pigs Fly." All 15 of Mississippi's community colleges participated in the event.
- ICC's **Film Club** premiered "Chocolate Milk" at the Tupelo Film Festival at the Malco Theatre, Apr. 18. The



students wrote and produced the film as a group. In addition, the members produced two Film Club commercials to air at the festival.

- Beverly Philley of Aberdeen received the Mississippi Painter's Society scholarship. ICC's art faculty made the selection based on Philley's commitment and dedication to her studio classes, consistently producing work of exceptional quality and setting an example through her preparedness for other students in the classroom.
- An Apr. 13 concert featured original compositions by Ryan Todd, music instructor and assistant band director. The concert was the premiere performances of "Fanfire and Fire" by the concert band and "Above All Else" and "Big and Blue" by the symphonic band.
- ICC's **Chamber Singers** performed "My Fair Lady" with the North Mississippi Symphony Orchestra, March 21, at the auditorium at Tupelo High School. Professional performers from the Ohio Light Opera Company and Memphis State University played the principal roles.
- ICC's **Choir** performed in an Elvis Presley-themed concert with the North Mississippi Symphony Orchestra, the Northeast Choir and Richard Marx at the Bancorp-South Arena in January, the culmination of an Elvis Week birthday celebration.
 - CenterStage, ICC's pop show group, represented ICC at multiple area events as well as performed two concerts on the Fulton Campus.



ATHLETICS

On the strength of five state or regional championships, Itawamba Community College enjoyed another unmatched level of success during the 2014-15 athletic year.

The Lady Indians' basketball team won their second NJCAA Region 23 championship in the past three seasons to earn a spot in the NJCAA Tournament in Kansas.

The Lady Indians' tennis team won the MACJC title and a share of the NJCAA Region 23 crown to earn a spot in the NJCAA National Tournament in Arizona while the Indians marched to the MACJC and NJCAA Region 23 championships in dominate fashion to punch their ticket to the NJCAA National Tournament in Texas.

The Lady Indians' softball team picked up their

fourth-consecutive season with 30 or more wins with sophomore Cara Hopper (Caledonia) setting the career saves record and sophomore Hannah Johnson (Branson, MO) setting the career wins record.

Tupelo native Wilson Reeder qualified for the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament after finishing in the Top 5 of the MACJC Golf Championship Tournament.

The women's soccer team welcomed a new head coach in David Strother.

The men's basketball team had five of its six sophomores sign to continue their careers, including: sophomore Tyrone Wooten (Memphis, TN), who signed with Louisiana-Lafayette and North Alabama signee sophomore Austin Timms (Mooreville).

2015

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ford), and New Mexico signee freshman running back

The baseball team adjusted to the new state-wide

conference and swept nationally-ranked Northwest Mis-

sissippi Community College and was an out away from

defeating No. 1 Hinds Community College this season. Sophomore Brady Chambley (Winona) signed with Del-

ta State while fellow sophomore TJ Watson (Dallas, GA)

Richard McQuarley (Meridian).

inked with West Georgia.

Three student-athletes earned NJCAA All-American honors: Anthony Fernandez (New Albany) in men's soccer, Jeb Millender (Pontotoc) in football, and Jayla Chills (Ripley) in women's basketball. This season also saw 11 student-athletes earn 19 MACJC and five NJCAA Player of the Week honors.

ICC grabbed the national spotlight after the men's soccer program earned a spot on ESPN SportsCenter's Top 10 Plays of the Day along with the football team being the only community college in the nation to participate in the NFL Leadership Program.

With the tennis state championships, ICC extends its streak to 11-straight years of winning at least one state title amongst its 10 intercollegiate athletic programs.



Serving its community is always a high priority for Itawamba Community College, but that is especially true for 2014-15.

The College was involved in a variety of activities and events, which not only afforded participation by area residents, but also enabled opportunities to benefit both young and old in the five-county service district and beyond.

Volunteerism

Last fall, ICC's practical nursing class assisted Habitat for Humanity with painting a home in Pontotoc, and its executive director Danny Park, who is also a member of the College's Board of Trustees, was most appreciative. "Habitat for Humanity can only operate because of people like these students willing to give in order to help someone they may never know have a better life."

Fundraising

In addition, as a result of a successful PACE 5K/10K run/walk to kick off Homecoming on October 25, college representatives presented a \$2,500 check to the North Mississippi Health Services to be used for diabetes awareness and a \$6,000 check to the ICC Foundation, Inc. for scholarships.

Bluegrass & Bar-B-Que

The College's 19th annual bluegrass concert in February for the first time ever benefitted the Foundation, and a record-setting audience enjoyed the performances of Rhonda Vincent, Dailey & Vincent, Gene Watson, and Doyle Lawson and Quicksilver. Billed as Bluegrass & Bar-B-Que, the event also

offered an option for members of the community to enjoy a delicious dinner even if they couldn't attend the concert.

Tour de Tanglefoot

The Tour de Tanglefoot not only raised money for the Foundation but also served as an extension of ICC's emphasis on promotion of a healthier College and community.

Endowments

Mr. Larry Brown and his family have established the Twila Brown Memorial Endowed Scholarship in memory of his wife. Twila Brown was an educator who for 40 years taught, inspired, and loved her students. This full-tuition scholarship will be awarded to a rising sophomore student that is pursuing an Associate of Arts degree with an English or Spanish Education Field emphasis from Itawamba County. The applicant must be a fulltime student from Itawamba County that plans to attend a 4 year university after graduating from ICC.

Tim Bowens, former NFL standout, took advantage of an opportunity to "give back" to his alma mater by endowing a scholarship to provide financial assistance for a graduate of Okolona High School to achieve success through enrollment at ICC beginning this fall.

Campus Events

Homecoming, a Tailgate Party and Pack the House showcased the College through numerous events including music, cookouts, recognitions, and most significantly, alumni reconnection with ICC.



The launch of Itawamba Community College's mobile app in January has provided a significant opportunity to "stay connected."

As a result, thousands of individuals with Androids and iPhones have already downloaded the app to stay connected.

The app services were determined by a survey of students, according to Dr. Jan Reid-Bunch, executive director of Community Relations. Before its launch, the app was tested by a Beta test group. The functionality of the app was developed by Steven West of ICC's Telecommunications and Information Services, and Kim Wiygul-Williams and Maggie Caldwell of the Community Relations Department created the graphics and launch design.

The app provides phone numbers, email addresses and office locations as well as allows students, faculty and staff to have mobile ID at their fingertips.

In addition, the app is a source of news, deadlines and events and a directional GPS.

Last, but not least, with ICC's emphasis on a healthier environment, the app provides healthy food choices through daily menu options and nutritional value.

The app will be updated biannually.





Itawamba Community College has embarked on a new age of recruiting with the implementation of several innovative initiatives.

In the fall, counselors/recruiters began visits to area schools with ICC's trendsetting Advanced Mobile Lab to provide insight into innovative technologies and to discuss educational opportunities available at the College. The mobile lab provides an opportunity to learn about opportunities in robotics, electronics, computers, CAD/CAM, motor control systems, CNC machining, LASER machining and 3-D printing in the interactive lab, which is designed for eighth graders through adults.

With the lab, ICC demonstrates the skills needed for success in today's industrial environment and the high-tech, high-salary jobs for which ICC can provide an educational edge. So far, more than 3,500 individuals ranging from 12-70 years of age toured the lab during 28 dates at festivals; elementary, middle and high schools; and vocational centers.

In addition to the mobile lab, ICC's recruiters made a road trip in early January to Pontotoc, Amory and Houston as well as provided an opportunity at the Tupelo Campus to enable area residents to register for the 2015 spring semester. "Taking the College into the community is a significant initiative for us as well as a vital part of our mission," said director of Student Affairs Brad Boggs. "We plan to continue to make a concerted effort to have a presence in our area communities."



JUMPSTART

2015

Individuals who desire a pathway to a better future can take advantage of Itawamba Community College's new Jumpstart program offered at the Belden Center.

The initiative connects Workforce Investment Act counselors to the Adult Basic Education program to enable participants to acquire job readiness skills as well as work toward the high school completion credential.

The program operates on a continuous five-week schedule with participants attending the activities that are part of the pathway they are pursuing, according to Julia Houston, ABE/GED/ESL coordinator. WIA counselors provide individual assistance in choosing the pathway of the three options that is the best fit. "The key to success is providing students with a schedule that has success, credentials and educational advancement built into each week's activities. Those who commit and participate in the program are set up for success."

Houston said that all components of the Jumpstart program are designed to promote and develop behaviors that will benefit participants, both in education and work environments.

Classes meet weekdays from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at the Belden Center, but are also offered on a rotating basis at the WIN Job Centers in Amory, Houston and Pontotoc. New students begin their first day of the program every Monday morning at the Belden Center after completing the preregistration process the Monday or Tuesday of the prior week. Houston said that one of the most important parts

of the preregistration process is the counseling provided before or after participants are assessed regarding skills levels and areas which need improvement. "The individual counseling that participants receive each week is truly the most significant component of the program," Houston said.

The first item on the schedule each day for all students and staff is the morning motivation, which Houston said is a time to provide both encouragement as well as necessary announcements. "We invite all ICC employees to participate in these sessions so that students have an opportunity to meet lots of ICC faces. We want them to know that all of ICC is concerned about their progress and success."

Students receive incentives throughout the five-week program to acknowledge their successes and persistence as well as to encourage them to complete. On their last day of the five-week program, participants present a culmination of their achievements to the other students and members of the staff. Written and oral presentations as well as visual media and other projects are components of the final presentation. "ICC takes pride in all of our students, and we take time to acknowledge their success as they move through the program," Houston said.

'We are the builders of your skills," Houston told the participants recently. "If you want something in your life you've never had, you have to do something you've never done."



The sun was shining on Fulton on April 18 even though the clouds were ominous, when a historical marker was unveiled at Itawamba Community College, one of six which were included in the special celebration of Fulton...Our Mark on History.

"The sun is shining on Fulton today, even if the sun isn't shining on Fulton today," said Aileen de la Torre, representative with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, the agency responsible for the markers, in her remarks during the opening presentation.

At ICC, where the unveiling ceremonies began, President Mike Eaton highlighted the College's 66-year history from its meager beginnings on a site that was once a cotton and corn field purchased for \$4,000 to its premier status of today.

"As ICC's sixth president, it is an honor to continue the vision and legacy of those who have served before me," Eaton said, "Philip Sheffield, John S. Crubaugh, Dr. W.O. Benjamin, Dr. David C. Cole and W.E. Boggs."

Cole and Boggs were present for the special ceremony as was Jane Threldkeld,

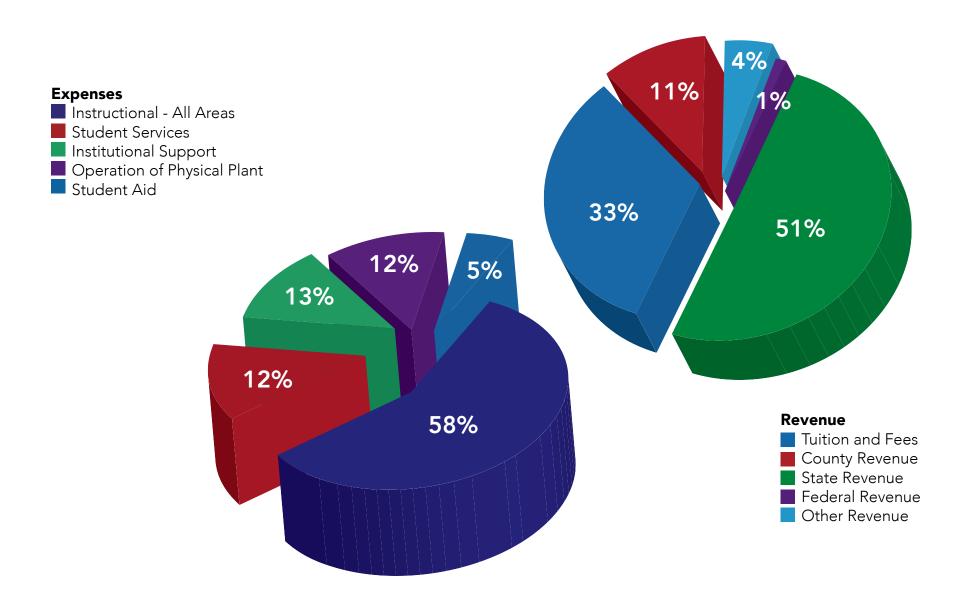
Sheffield's daughter.

The Reverend Roy Ryan of Tupelo, who 2015 was a member of the 1950 graduating class, IJC's first, shared memories just prior to the unveiling. Assisting were his classmates, Dr. Tom Burch, Doris Finney Ryan, Delbert Turner Jr. and the Rev. Glyn Wiygul.

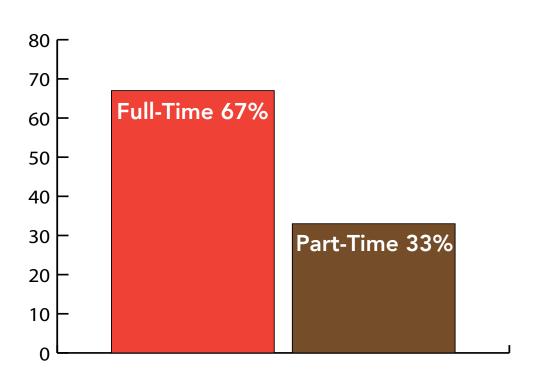
"Itawamba Community College has a rich history of academic excellence, athletic tradition and a legacy for which we owe a debt of gratitude to a small group of Itawamba citizens who persevered to fulfill their vision in the 1940s...which has culminated in what we share today," Eaton said. "Thank you for allowing Itawamba Community College to be a significant part of this celebration today. On behalf of our entire family, we are most grateful."

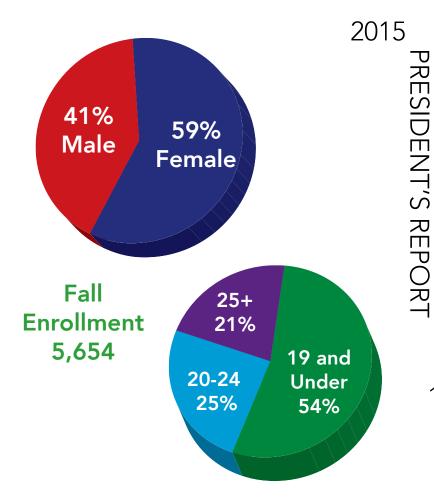


REPORT CARD



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